



The Resources Agency
1416 9th Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

California

Co-Chair
KATE DARGAN

Members:
Ruben Grijalva
Cindy Tuck
Patrick Wright
Jeff Michael
John Pickett
John Upton
Ron McIntyre

Ex-Officio:
Amy Horne

Nevada

Co-Chair
SIG ROGICH

Members:
James M. Wright
Pete Anderson
Michael D. Brown
Jim Santini
John Koster
Bud Hicks
Bob Davidson

Ex-Officios:
Allen Biaggi
Leo Drozdoff

US Forest Service

Jim Pena

Website:
<http://www.resources.ca.gov/tahoefirecommission>

CALIFORNIA-NEVADA TAHOE BASIN FIRE COMMISSION



Nevada State Capitol
101 North Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Thursday, March 6, 2008

**Community Fire Safety Committee (9:00 a.m.),
Wildland Fuels Committee (9:00 a.m.), and
Legislative and Funding Policy Committee (9:00 a.m.)
Sierra Nevada College
999 Tahoe Boulevard, Incline Village, Nevada
(Committees' Notice/Agenda and meeting location on pages 4-6)**

Friday, March 7, 2008, 9:00 a.m.

**Commission Meeting
Sierra Nevada College
Tahoe Center for Environmental Sciences
999 Tahoe Boulevard, Incline Village, Nevada**

AGENDA

(Action may be taken on those items denoted "Action")

Public comment may be limited to three minutes per person at the discretion of the Co-Chairs. Times listed are estimates provided for planning purposes only. Items may be taken out of order and may take more or less time than indicated.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Discussion and Adoption of Minutes – **Action**
 - A. February 8, 2008
 - B. February 19, 2008
3. Presentation by California Assemblyman Ted Gaines, commending the Commission-**Discussion/Action**
4. Presentation by Dr. Zach Hymanson, Executive Director of the Tahoe Science Consortium, regarding the recent workshop held to discuss vegetation management strategies in sensitive areas of the Tahoe Basin.-**Discussion/Action**

5. Staff Report – **Discussion/Action**

- A. Remaining meetings.
- B. Status of Final Report
- C. Status of Proposed Findings and Recommendations

6. Proposed Findings and Recommendations not recommended for adoption— **Discussion/Action**

The committees have recommended for various reasons that the following proposed F&Rs not be adopted by the Commission:

V-005, V-013, V-014, V-023, V-030, V-035, V-036, V-037, V-038, V-039, V-040, V-041, V-042, V-045, V-046, V-047, V-048, V-049, V-50, V-051, V-052, V-053, V-054, V-056, V-068, V-070, V-075, V-076, V-086, V-089, V-092, V-094, V-098, V-111, V-112, V-114, V-117, V-119.

(These items are coded “blue” on the Proposed Findings and Recommendations Tracking Log.)

7. Proposed language change for Recommendation #5 of previously-adopted F&R V-025. — **Discussion/Action**

8. Wildland Fuels Issues

- A. Wildland Fuels Committee Report – **Discussion/Action**
- B. Consideration of the Proposed Findings and associated Recommendations on the following topics— **Discussion/Action***

Catastrophic Fire

- a. Proposed F&Rs relating to the risk of catastrophic wildfire occurrence in the Tahoe Basin and the restoration of healthy forests— **Discussion/Action**

Air Quality

- a. Proposed F&Rs relating to air quality, including air quality data, public information, prescribed burning, smoke management, and the regulation of burn day allocations – **Discussion/Action**

Biomass and Fuels Treatments

- a. Proposed F&Rs relating to biomass utilization and fuels reduction, including the role of forest thinning in maintaining healthy forest conditions and wildfire protection, access to biomass fuels on steep slopes and in areas with limited roads, and methods for prioritizing fuels reduction projects – **Discussion/Action**

Project Funding and Monitoring

- a. Proposed F&Rs relating to the funding of fuels reduction and forest health projects, as well as costs and other implications of comprehensive project monitoring – **Discussion/Action**

Permit Streamlining and SEZ'S

- a. Proposed F&Rs related to improving agency coordination in order to simplify the existing system of confusing and sometimes conflicting land management and environmental laws and regulations in the Lake Tahoe Basin, including the various permits required to reduce fuels in sensitive habitats, clarification of what constitutes a Stream Environment Zone (SEZ), and the implementation of a better system for research and evaluation of project results and impacts – **Discussion/Action**

- C. Other issues – **Discussion**

9. Community Fire Safety Issues

A. Community Fire Safety Committee Report – **Discussion/Action**

B. Consideration of the Proposed Findings and associated Recommendations on the following topics– **Discussion/Action***

- a. **Permit Streamlining** – presentation of F&Rs regarding overlapping permitting system in the Tahoe Basin affecting defensible space and recommendations to streamline the permitting process – **Discussion/Action**
- c. **Defensible Space** – presentation of F&Rs regarding prescriptions for defensible space and erosion control and Best Management Practices (BMPs) and proposed recommendations regarding defensible space, fire behavior, erosion control, inconsistencies and BMPs. **Discussion/Action**
- d. **Fire Protection and Prevention**-- Presentation of proposed F&Rs relating to the level of wildland fire protection in California SRA, airborne firefighting systems, interagency communications, new firefighting facilities, new fire prevention positions, US Forest Service engine placement, the use of appropriate building materials and fire prevention education. – **Discussion/Action**

C. Other issues.--**Discussion**

10. Legislative and Funding Policy Issues

A. Legislative and Funding Policy Committee Report- **Discussion/Action**

B. Consideration of the following Proposed Findings and associated Recommendations on the following topics– **Discussion/Action***

a. **Emergency Declaration and Continuity Plan**

Proposed F&Rs relating to the need for urgent fire mitigation actions across a wide spectrum of fire suppression, economic, fuels management, planning issues; and for a mechanism to ensure that the Governor's approved recommendations from the Commission be implemented and maintained over time . – **Discussion/Action**

b. **Funding Issues**

Proposed F&Rs relating to the need for a long-term, stable source of funds for forest health, fire suppression, fuels reduction projects, and fire safety education for Lake Tahoe Basin – **Discussion/Action**

c. **Regulatory Authorities**

Proposed F&Rs relating to possible changes in the duties and composition of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency and other agencies in order to address fire safety issues and the threat of catastrophic fire to the environment, improving agency coordination, including the modification of MOUs between agencies, more effective regulatory coordination between agencies, including simplified environmental review processes and better accommodation of public safety and fire mitigations–
Discussion/Action

C. Other issues – **Discussion**

11. Direction to Staff for preparation of Final Report – **Discussion/Action**

12. Public Comment – **Discussion**

13. Adjournment – **Action**

**The Commission may consider any F&R(s) (Finding and Recommendations) on the Tahoe Basin Fire Commission website, any modifications to those F&Rs, and any additional F&Rs submitted addressing items on the agenda. The Commission may create its own F&Rs on any of the subject matters included on the agenda.*

A. Community Fire Safety Committee – 9:00 a.m. (TCFS - Room 139)**

1. Call to Order
 - a. Roll Call
2. **Aviation Resources, Communications, and “Closest Forces” During the Angora Fire (discussion/action).**
Presentation from the USFS and related agencies.
3. **Review of previous actions taken (discussion/action)**
The committee will review all previous actions taken at Committee and Commission meetings and will discuss any requests from committee members to take further action on topics discussed.

V-010 – Permit Streamlining – proposed findings regarding overlapping permitting system in the Tahoe Basin affecting defensible space and recommendations to streamline the permitting process.

V-011 – Level of Protection – a proposed finding relating to “closest forces” dispatching response policy.

V-009, V-085 - The level of wildland fire protection on California SRA

V-017, V-071, V-072, V-083, V-097, V-100 and V-111– Defensible Space – proposed findings regarding prescriptions for defensible space and erosion control Best Management Practices (BMPs) and proposed recommendations regarding defensible space, fire behavior, erosion control, inconsistencies and BMPs.

4. **Review of proposed findings/recommendations (discussion/action)**
Proposed findings and recommendations relating to materials of construction, building and fire codes, interagency communications, use of technology for surveillance/intelligence for firefighting, community conservation plans, property inspection, conservation camp crews, public and private water distribution infrastructure, and fire prevention and restrictions.
V-067, V-078, V-081, V-084, V-088, V-090, V-091, V-093, V-115

Break (15 minutes)

5. **Public Comments (30 minutes)**
The sub-committee will hear comments from the public. Public comments will be limited to 3 minutes per person with a maximum of 30 minutes. Public comment cards will be accepted and called upon in the order received.
6. **Findings and Recommendations (discussion/action)**
The committee members may make findings and recommendations regarding the subject matters discussed and may take action on recommendations to the Commission. The committee may also identify key performance measures and develop due dates for future work.
7. **Adjournment**
Items not completed will be tabled for a future agenda.

***Each Committee may consider any F&R(s) (Finding and Recommendations) on the Tahoe Basin Fire Commission website, any modifications to those F&Rs, and any additional F&Rs submitted addressing items on the agenda. Each Committee may create their own F&Rs on any of the subject matters included on the agenda.*

B. Wildland Fuels Committee – 9:00 a.m. (TCFS - Room 141)**

1. Call to Order
 - a. Roll call
 - b. Review and approval of minutes – **Action**
 - c. Review agenda including adjournment time – **Discussion**
 2. Presentation by Dr. Zach Hymanson, Executive Director of the Tahoe Science Consortium, regarding the recent workshop held to discuss vegetation management strategies in sensitive areas of the Tahoe Basin.- **Discussion/Action**
 3. Consideration of the following Proposed Findings and associated Recommendations on the following topics– **Discussion/Action**
 - A. Air Quality**

Proposed F&Rs relating to air quality, including air quality data, public information, prescribed burning, smoke management, and the regulation of burn day allocations – **Discussion/Action**
 - B. Biomass and Fuels Treatments**

Proposed F&Rs relating to biomass utilization and fuels reduction, including the role of forest thinning in maintaining healthy forest conditions and wildfire protection, access to biomass fuels on steep slopes and in areas with limited roads, and methods for prioritizing fuels reduction projects – **Discussion/Action**
 - C. Permit Streamlining and SEZ'S**

Proposed F&Rs relating to improving agency coordination in order to simplify the existing system of confusing and sometimes conflicting land management and environmental laws and regulations in the Lake Tahoe Basin, including the various permits required to reduce fuels in sensitive habitats, clarification of what constitutes a Stream Environment Zone (SEZ), and the implementation of a better system for research and evaluation of project results and impacts – **Discussion/Action**
- The following proposed F&Rs have been assigned to the Committee for review and are among those that may be acted upon at the meeting in the above subject categories as appropriate: V-008, V-031, V-033, V-069, V-060, V-076, V-080, V-109, V-118.
4. Review of newly received Findings to determine whether or not to agendize for a future meeting for the purpose of developing Committee recommendations and forwarding to the Commission – **Discussion/Action**
 5. Public Comments – **Discussion**

The committee will hear comments from the public. Public comments will be limited to 3 minutes per person with a maximum of 30 minutes. Public comment cards will be accepted and called upon in the order received.
 6. Adjournment - **Action**

Items not completed will be tabled for future agenda.

***Each Committee may consider any F&R(s) (Finding and Recommendations) on the Tahoe Basin Fire Commission website, any modifications to those F&Rs, and any additional F&Rs submitted addressing items on the agenda. Each Committee may create their own F&Rs on any of the subject matters included on the agenda.*

C. Legislative and Funding Policy Committee – 9:00 a.m. (TCFS - Room 119)**

1. Call to Order

Roll call
Review and approval of minutes - **Action**
Review of Agenda – **Discussion**

2. Consideration of Proposed Findings and associated Recommendations in the following areas - Discussion/Action

A. Emergency Declaration and Continuity Plan

Proposed F&Rs relating to the need for urgent fire mitigation actions across a wide spectrum of fire suppression, economic, fuels management, planning issues; and for a mechanism to ensure that the Governor's approved recommendations from the Commission be implemented and maintained over time . – **Discussion/Action**

B. Funding Issues

Proposed F&Rs relating to the need for a long-term, stable source of funds for forest health, fire suppression, fuels reduction projects, and fire safety education for Lake Tahoe Basin – **Discussion/Action**

C. Regulatory / Governance Authorities

Proposed F&Rs relating to possible changes in the duties and composition of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency and other agencies in order to address fire safety issues and the threat of catastrophic fire to the environment, improving agency coordination, including the modification of MOUs between agencies, more effective regulatory coordination between agencies, including simplified environmental review processes and better accommodation of public safety and fire mitigations–
Discussion/Action

The following proposed F&Rs have been assigned to the Committee for review and are among those that may be acted upon at the meeting in the above subject categories as appropriate:

V-002, V-003, V-004, V-006, V-016, V-018, V-019, V-034, V-043,
V-044, V-046, V-052, V-053, V-061, V-062, V-064, V-065, V-073, V-074, V-077, V-095, V-096,
V-099, V-101, V-102, V-103, V-104, V-105, V-107, V-108, V-116, V-120.

3. Review of new and consolidated Findings and Recommendations, including those referred from other committees, (including V-016-Recommendations #2 and #3, V-020, V-038-Recommendation #1, and V-109-Recommendation #13) for the purpose of developing Committee recommendations and forwarding to the Commission – Discussion/Action

4. Public Comments – Discussion

The committee will hear comments from the public. Public comments will be limited to 3 minutes per person with a maximum of 30 minutes. Public comment cards will be accepted and called upon in the order received.

Break and reconvene following Commission meeting if necessary

5. Adjournment - Action

Items not completed will be tabled for future agenda.

***Each Committee may consider any F&R(s) (Finding and Recommendations) on the Tahoe Basin Fire Commission website, any modifications to those F&Rs, and any additional F&Rs submitted addressing items on the agenda. Each Committee may create their own F&Rs on any of the subject matters included on the agenda.*

This notice has been posted on the California Resources Agency Web site at <http://resources.ca.gov/TahoeFireCommission/> and has been posted on or before 9 a.m. on the third working day before the meeting at the following locations:

Sierra Nevada College
999 Tahoe Boulevard
Incline Village, Nevada

Nevada State Capitol Building
101 North Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

Nevada Department of Conservation & Natural Resources
901 South Stewart Street, Richard H. Bryan Building
Carson City, NV 89701-5244

Nevada Legislative Building
401 South Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

Copies of the written materials will be made available to the public at the meeting location at the Sierra Nevada College, 999 Tahoe Boulevard, Incline Village, Nevada.

For information or documents (as indicated below) concerning the Commission meeting, please contact Dana Cole, Commission Staff Liaison, (916) 327-9631 or Dana.Cole@resources.ca.gov

Any written reports being provided to the Commission members in advance of the public meeting will also be available to the public upon request; and,

In accordance with Title II of the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, reasonable accommodations are available. Requests for reasonable accommodations should be made at least five working days prior to the meeting date. To request reasonable accommodations, including documents in alternative formats, please contact: Dana Cole, Commission Staff Liaison